

1 Q. Reference: 2013 Amended GRA, Section 2: Regulated Activities, table
2 2.6, page 2.39. Please explain the reasons for the \$6.3 million increase in the cost of
3 professional services between 2013 and 2014 and the \$4.1 million increase from
4 2013 to 2015.

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7 A. The increase in professional services of \$6.3 million between 2013 and 2014 is
8 primarily due to the following:

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- 10 • An increase of \$2.3 million of GRA and Board related costs associated with
an increased volume of application and regulatory activity; and
 - 11 • An increase in consulting costs of \$4.0 million: \$2.0 million mainly due to the
12 outage inquiry, \$1.1 million due to condition assessments and engineering
13 related activities, \$0.6 million due to environmental work and safety and
14 health related programs and \$0.3 million due to environmental remediation
15 at Sunnyside Terminal Station.

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17 The increase in professional services of \$4.1 million between 2013 and 2015 is
18 primarily due to the following:

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- 20 • An increase in GRA and Board related costs of \$1.1 million primarily due to
21 amortization of GRA Hearing costs and an increased volume of application
and regulatory activity;
 - 22 • An increase in consulting costs of \$2.4 million: \$1.0 million mainly due to
23 regulatory studies and filings, \$0.9 million due to condition assessments and
24 engineering related activities, \$0.7 million due to studies related to the
25 integration of additional generation sources, \$0.5 million due to

- 1 environmental work and safety and health related programs. This is partially
2 mitigated by a reduction in CDM program related costs of \$0.7 million;
- 3 • An increase in software costs of \$0.2 million, primarily due to vendor price
4 increases and additional software programs; and
 - 5 • A decrease in cost recoveries of \$0.5 million due a reduction in the deferral
6 of CDM Costs of \$0.7 million, which is partially mitigated by an increase of
7 \$0.2 million increase, recovered through the Admin fee.